

CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENTIAL

25X1A

SECURITY INFORMATION
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO. 430

COUNTRY Yugoslavia

DATE DISTR. 7 November 1951

SUBJECT Alleged Persecution of Protestants in Koleshino

NO. OF PAGES 1

25X1A

PLACE
ACQUIRED [REDACTED]DATE OF
INFO. [REDACTED]NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

DO NOT CIRCULATE

25X1X

1. In February 1951 the following were the most prominent Communists in the village of Koleshino:
 - a. Pancho Vasilev Velkov, from Gabrovo, Chairman of the Community People's Council.
 - b. Toma Petrov, Political Secretary of the Koleshino Committee of the Communist Party.
 - c. Tuso Radev, Secretary of the Community People's Council.
 - d. Toma Andonov, member of the Koleshino Community Council.
 - e. Boris Poprizov, Chairman of the Koleshino collective.
2. In 1950 a working member of the collective in Koleshino received 55 dinars in bonds and 78 dinars in cash per day.
3. The officials and followers of the Protestant Church in Koleshino were persecuted by the authorities, and none of the Protestants in Koleshino were members of the Communist Party. The Protestant Minister, Ceka Dimitriev Cekov, was sentenced to eight years in prison for "pro-American propaganda activity". The charge was based on the fact that he was receiving food and medicine parcels from the United States for the members of his parish. After the arrest of Cekov, the Protestant church in Koleshino was without a minister, and the officials did not permit the Protestant minister in Strumica to conduct church services in Koleshino. The Communist officials in the village often ordered the people to do "voluntary" work on Sundays to prevent them from attending church services.
4. The authorities have also ordered that all food parcels sent to the Protestants in Koleshino from Protestants in the United States be confiscated.
5. The village of Gabrovo had 500 inhabitants. The chairman of the collective in Gabrovo was Gretko Angelof.

CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENTIAL

STATE#	EV	X	NAVY #	X	NSRB		DISTRIBUTION
ARMY#		X	AIR #	X	FBI		

Document No. 002

No Change in Class. X

☐ Declassified

Class. Changed To: TS S C

Auth.: HR 70-2

Date: 85/08/78

By: 008